

# Daily Digest

## HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Michael Chertoff, of New Jersey, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S1361–S1437*

**Measures Introduced:** Sixteen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 375–390, and S. Con. Res. 12–13. **Pages S1413–14**

**Measures Passed:**

*Honoring the American Society of Mechanical Engineers:* Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 13, congratulating ASME on their 125th anniversary, celebrating the achievements of ASME members, and expressing the gratitude of the American people for ASME's contributions. **Pages S1435–36**

**Nomination:** Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Michael Chertoff, of New Jersey, to be Secretary of Homeland Security. **Pages S1369–87, S1437**

**Nazi War Crimes Working Group Extension Act—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at 11 a.m., on Wednesday, February 16, 2005, Senate begin consideration of S. 384, a bill to extend the existence of the Nazi War Crimes Working Group; that there be 90 minutes of debate equally divided between the Majority Leader, or his designee, and the Democratic Leader, or his designee; that there be no amendments in order, and that following the use, or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on final passage. **Page S1436**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Lester M. Crawford, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Army. **Pages S1436–37**

**Measures Placed on Calendar:** **Page S1412**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S1412–13**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1414–15**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S1415–35**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S1411–12**

**Authority for Committees to Meet:** **Page S1435**

**Privilege of the Floor:** **Page S1435**

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—10) **Page S1387**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:45 a.m., and adjourned at 5:45 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, February 16, 2005. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1436.)

### Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

#### DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BUDGET

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine priorities and plans for the atomic energy defense activities of the Department of Energy (DOE) and to review the President's budget request for fiscal year 2006 for atomic energy defense activities of the Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration, focusing on the Administration's priorities for nuclear weapons, threat reduction programs, and DOE's environmental clean-up program, after receiving testimony from Samuel W. Bodman, Secretary of Energy.

#### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of John Paul Woodley, Jr., of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, Buddie J. Penn, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy, who was introduced by former Senator Symms, and the following named officer for appointment in the United

States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601: Adm. William J. Fallon, to be Admiral, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

#### **BUDGET: TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of Homeland Security's Transportation Security Administration and related program, after receiving testimony from David M. Stone, Assistant Secretary of Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security; and Cathleen Ann Berrick, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office.

#### **LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS**

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Energy concluded a hearing to examine the future of liquefied natural gas, focusing on the prospects for liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the United States and to discuss the safety and security issues related to LNG developments, after receiving testimony from J. Mark Robinson, Director, Office of Energy Projects, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Captain David L. Scott, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security; Mike Hightower, Technical Staff Member, Sandia

National Laboratories; Michael R. Peevey, California Public Utilities Commission, Los Angeles; William Kramer, Jr., New Jersey Division of Fire Safety, Trenton, on behalf of the National Association of State Fire Marshals; Mayor David N. Cicilline, Providence, Rhode Island; Thomas E. Giles, Mitsubishi, Long Beach, California; and Richard L. Grant, Tractebel North America, and Distrigas of Massachusetts, Boston.

#### **NOMINATION**

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Robert B. Zoellick, to be Deputy Secretary of State, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Grassley and Baucus, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGET**

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2006, after receiving testimony from R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs; Peter S. Gaytan, The American Legion, Dennis M. Cullinan, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Joseph A. Violante, Disabled American Veterans, and Richard B. Fuller, Paralyzed Veterans of America, all of Washington, D.C.; and Richard Jones, AMVETS, Lanham, Maryland.

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## House of Representatives

### *Chamber Action*

**Measures Introduced:** 37 public bills, H.R. 798–835; and 18 resolutions, H.J. Res. 19–20; H. Con. Res. 61–65, and H. Res. 92–94 and 97–104, were introduced.

**Pages H627–30**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages H630–31**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 95, providing for consideration of H.R. 310, to increase the penalties for violations by television and radio broadcasters of the prohibitions against transmission of obscene, indecent, and profane material (H. Rept. 109–6); and

H. Res. 96, providing for consideration of S. 5, to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants (H. Rept. 109–7).

**Page H627**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Petri to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today.

**Page H589**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:53 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

**Page H592**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

*Recognizing the contributions of the "Greensboro Four" to the civil rights movement:* H. Con. Res. 25, recognizing the contributions of Jibreel Khazan (Ezell Blair, Jr.), David Richmond, Joseph McNeil, and Franklin McCain, the "Greensboro Four", to the civil rights movement, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nay vote of 424 yeas with none voting "nay", Roll No. 32;

**Pages H593–96, H602–03**

*Arthur Stacey Mastrapa Post Office Building Designation Act:* H.R. 324, to designate the facility